

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00438 170729Z  
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01  
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-08 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 /046 W  
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R 161555Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2099  
INFO USDOC WASHDC  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: APUB, PFOR, EGEN, CZ, US  
SUBJECT: BOOK CLAIMS U.S. WAGES ECONOMIC WAR AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY REPORTS PUBLICATION OF BOOK ON ALLEGED U.S.  
"ECONOMIC WAR" AGAINST CSSR AND ITS ALLIES. BASED ON SUMMARY  
READING, BOOK APPEARS TO BE REHASH OF FAMILIAR COMMUNIST  
ACCUSATIONS. EMBASSY SEES NO GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN BOOK.  
COPIES POUCHED TO INR/P. IF WARRANTED, EMBASSY WILL COMMENT  
FURTHER AFTER ENTIRE TEXT IS DIGESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. RUDE PRAVO RECENTLY ANNOUNCED PUBLICATION OF BOOK BY ZDENEK  
PROCHAZKA ENTITLED "ECONOMIC WAR OF THE UNITED STATES AGAINST  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA". PUBLISHER OF 329-PAGE, SOFT-BACK BOOK, WHICH  
SELLS FOR 16 CROWNS (ROUGHLY \$3 AT OFFICIAL OR \$1.50 AT DIPLOMATIC  
EXCHANGE RATE), IS "NASE VOJSKO" ("OUR TROOPS") OF PRAGUE, GOC  
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PUBLISHING HOUSE SPECIALIZING IN TRACTS FOR MILITARY INDOCTRINATION.  
AUTHOR PRESUMABLY IS SAME LT. COL. ZDENEK PROCHAZKA WHO, ACCORDING  
TO EMBASSY BIOGRAPHIC FILES, WAS DEPUTY HEAD OF IDEIOLOGIICAL  
ADMINISTRATION OF CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY'S MAIN POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION  
IN 1970.

3. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET TRANSLATED ENTIRE CZECH TEXT, BUT INITIAL

SUMMARY READING INDICATES BOOK IS A PURELY POLEMIC REHASH OF FAMILIAR COMMUNIST ACCUSATIONS. BOOK PURPORTS TO EXPLAIN U.S. "ECONOMIC AGRESSION" AGAINST CSSR AND ITS ALLIES FROM "COLD WAR" DAYS UP TO PRESENT, ASSERTING THAT USG HAS SUBORDINATED ITS ECONOMIC RELATIONS TO "POLICY OF FRANTIC ARMAMENT AND PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD WAR III". IN FINAL CHAPTER ("FLOP OF U.S. ECONOMIC WAR"), AUTHOR ENDS ON COMPARATIVELY UP-BEAT NOTE BY ASSERTING THAT TRANSITION FROM COLD WAR TO RELAXATION OF TENSIONS CAN BRING ABOUT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION IN PLACE OF ECONOMIC WAR.

4. COMMENT: WE PERCEIVE NO GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN CONTENTS OR EMERGENCE OF BOOK (WHICH IS DATED 1976) AT THIS TIME. PRESUMABLY IT IS JUST ANOTHER LOG TO KEEP FIRES OF IDEOLOGICAL VIGILANCE BURNING BRIGHTLY, ALTHOUGH CURRENT CHARTER 77 CONTROVERSY MAY HELP IT MOVE UP ON MARXIST BEST SELLER LIST.

5. EMBASSY HAS POUCHED TWO COPIES TO INR/P. IF WARRANTED, WE WILL REPORT FURTHER COMMENTS ON BOOK AFTER WE HAVE DIGESTED ENTIRE TEXT.  
BYRNE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** APUB, PFOR, EGEN, CZ, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009